

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OES-07 /089 W
-----041015Z 069107 /23

R 031603Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6191
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SF
SUBJECT: BBC INTERVIEW WITH VORSTER

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 892, (B) CAPE TOWN 878,

1. LOCAL PRESS JUNE 2 AND 3 CARRIED ARTICLES ABOUT INTERVIEW
WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER REPORTEDLY BROADCAST BY BBC ON
JUNE 1. VORSTER APPEARS TO HAVE REITERATED MANY POINTS
HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT COLLEAGUES HAVE MADE IN OTHER PUBLIC
STATEMENTS SINCE VIENNA (REFTELS).

2. REACTING TO QUESTION BASED ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S SOUTH BEND
SPEECH TO THE EFFECT THAT COMMUNISM IS NO LONGER REAL THREAT TO
WORLD, VORSTER SAID THAT IF U.S. REALLY BELIEVED THIS THEN HE
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FEARED FOR WESTERN WORLD AND FOR DEMOCRACY. VORSTER REPEATED
OFTEN-MADE STATEMENT THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT BE DICTATED
TO BY OTHER COUNTRIES. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE U.S.
SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, VORSTER SAID QUOTE
I WILL BE VERY SORRY INDEED AND I CANNOT CONCEIVE FOR
ONE MOMENT THAT THE US WILL MEDDLE IN THE INTERNAL
AFFAIRS OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THIS EXTENT. IT IS A FOOL

WHO DOES NOT LISTEN TO WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY TO YOU
BUT IT IS A GREATER FOOL WHO GOVERNS HIS COUNTRY
ACCORDING TO THE DICTATES OF OUTSIDERS UNQUOTE. HE
SAID THAT MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND US
WAS US INSISTENCE ON EQUATING AMERICAN NEGRO WITH SOUTH
AFRICAN BLACK. HE ADDED THAT NO POLITICAL PARTY IN SOUTH AFRICA
IS PREPARED TO SUBSCRIBE TO PRINCIPLE OF ONE-MAN-ONE-VOTE.

3. ON RHODESIA, VORSTER SAID HE SUPPORTS ANGLO-AMERICAN
EFFORTS TO GET "THE DIRECTLY INTERESTED PARTIES" TO AGREE
TO AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION INCLUDING ELECTIONS IN
WHICH ALL COULD TAKE PART. SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOT, HOWEVER,
AGREED TO GO FURTHER THAN THIS.

4. ASKED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF URBAN BLACKS AND PIET
KOORNHOF'S RECENT SPEECH (CAPE TOWN 863), VORSTER SAID
QUOTE YOU MUST NOT READ MORE IN DR. KOORNHOF'S SPEECH
THAN HE IN FACT SAYS. DR. KOORNHOF SPOKE ABOUT THE
PLURAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA AND HE PUT FORWARD CERTAIN
POSSIBILITIES. HE DID NOT FOR ONE MOMENT SAY THAT THE
POLICY OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE SCRAPPED. UNQUOTE.
HE ELABORATED BY SAYING THAT URBAN BLACKS ALREADY ENJOY
"FULL PARTICIPATION" IN THEIR OWN TERRITORIES.BOWDLER

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